

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend the turkey rules and regulations for the 2006 season.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part XIX. Hunting and WMA Regulations

Chapter 1. Resident Game Hunting Season

§113. Turkey Hunting Regulations

A. Daily limit is one gobbler, two gobblers per season. Taking of hen turkeys, including bearded hens, is illegal. Still hunting only. Use of dogs, baiting, electronic calling devices and live decoys is illegal. Turkeys may be hunted with shotguns, including muzzleloading shotguns, using shot not larger than #2 lead or BB steel shot, and bow and arrow but by no other means. Shooting turkeys from a moving or stationary vehicle is prohibited. Shotguns capable of holding more than three shells prohibited.

B. No person shall hunt, trap or take turkeys by the aid of baiting or on or over any baited area. Baiting means placing, exposing, depositing or scattering of corn (shelled, shucked or unshucked), wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed

so as to constitute a lure, attraction or enticement to, on or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take turkeys.

C. A baited area is any area where corn (shelled, shucked or unshucked), wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed capable of luring, attracting or enticing turkeys is directly or indirectly placed, exposed, deposited, distributed or scattered. Such areas remain baited areas for 15 days following complete removal of all such corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed.

D. Wildlife agents are authorized to close such baited areas and to place signs in the immediate vicinity designating closed zones and dates of closure.

E. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries strongly discourages feeding agricultural grains to wild turkeys as this practice increases the risk of birds contracting potentially lethal diseases. Repeatedly placing grain in the same area may expose otherwise healthy birds to disease contaminated soils, grain containing lethal toxins and other diseased turkeys using the same feeding site. Properly distributed food plots (clovers, wheat, millet and chufa) are far more desirable for turkeys and have the added benefit of appealing to a wide variety of wildlife.

F. It is unlawful to take from the wild or possess in captivity any live wild turkeys or their eggs. No pen raised

turkeys from within or without the state shall be liberated (released) within the state.

G. All licensed turkey hunters are required to have a Turkey ~~Stamp~~ License in their possession while turkey hunting in addition to basic and big game hunting licenses. Additionally, a WMA Hunting Permit is required of any person (age 18-59) who hunts on land administered by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, including Wildlife Management Areas, Wildlife Refuges, and Habitat Conservation Areas.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2263 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270 (December 2001), LR 28:2375 (November 2002), LR 29:2512 (November 2003), LR 30:2874 (December 2004), LR 31: .

§115. Statewide Turkey Hunting Areas-Resident Game Birds and Animals

A. Shooting hours: one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

SPECIES	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Turkey	See Schedule	1	2/Season

B. Turkey season will open in designated areas on the fourth Saturday in March. The Area A turkey season will be 30

consecutive days in length, the Area B turkey season will be 23 consecutive days in length, and the Area C turkey season will be 9 consecutive days in length. Wildlife Management Areas, National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land may vary from this framework. Deviation from this framework may occur in those years when the fourth Saturday in March falls the day before Easter.

C. Statewide Youth Turkey Season on private lands shall be the weekend prior to the statewide turkey season. Only youths younger than 16 years of age may hunt. Youth must possess a hunter safety certification or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course. Each youth must be accompanied by one adult 18 years of age or older. If the accompanying adult is in possession of hunter safety certification, a valid hunting license or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course, this requirement is waived for the youth. Adults may not possess a firearm or bow. Youths may possess only one firearm or bow while hunting. Legal weapons and shot are the same as described for the turkey season. The supervising adult shall maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times. An adult may supervise only one youth during this special hunt. Only one gobbler per day may be taken and any gobbler taken by the youth during this special season counts towards their seasonal bag limit of 2.

D. ~~2005~~ 2006 Turkey Hunting Schedule

AREA	SEASON DATES
A	March 25 - April 24 <u>23</u>
B	March 25 - April 17 <u>16</u>
C	March 25 - April 3 <u>2</u>
Private Lands Youth Hunt	March 19 <u>18</u> - 20 <u>19</u>

E. ~~2005~~ 2006 Turkey Hunting Season - Open Only in the
Following Areas

1. Area A - March 25 - April ~~24~~ 23

a. All of the following parishes are open:

i. Beauregard;

ii. East Baton Rouge;

iii. East Feliciana;

iv. LaSalle;

v. Livingston;

vi. Natchitoches (Exception: See Federal
Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

vii. Sabine;

viii. St. Helena;

ix. St. Tammany;

x. Tangipahoa;

xi. Vernon (Exception: See Federal Lands
Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

xii. Washington;

xiii. West Baton Rouge;

xiv. West Feliciana (including Raccourci Island);

xv. Winn (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

i. Allen: North of LA 104, west of LA 26 south of junction of LA 104 to US 190, north of US 190 east of Kinder, west of US 165 south of Kinder;

ii. Avoyelles: That portion bounded on the east by the Atchafalaya River, on the north by Red River to the Brouillette Community, on the west by LA 452 from Brouillette to LA 1, on the south by LA 1, eastward to Hamburg, thence by the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection levee southward;

iii. Calcasieu: North of I-10;

iv. Caldwell: West of Ouachita River southward to Catahoula Parish line;

v. Catahoula: West of Ouachita River southward to LA 559 at Duty Ferry, north of LA 559 to LA 124, south and west of LA 124 from Duty Ferry to LA 8 at Harrisonburg and north and west of LA 8 to LaSalle Parish line. ALSO that portion lying east of LA 15;

vi. Concordia: That portion east of LA 15 and west of US 65 from its juncture with LA 15 at Clayton;

vii. Evangeline: North and west of LA 115, north of LA 106 from St. Landry to LA 13, west of LA 13 from Pine Prairie to Mamou and north of LA 104 west of Mamou;

viii. Franklin: That portion lying east of LA 17 and east of LA 15 from its juncture with LA 17 at Winnsboro;

ix. Grant: All of the parish except that portion of land that lies north of the Red River between US 71 and LA 8. Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates;

x. Iberville: West of LA 1. EXCEPTION: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries;

xi. Jefferson Davis: North of US 190 from junction with LA 26 to Kinder, west of US 165 and north of I-10 west from junction of US 165;

xii. Madison: That portion lying east of US 65 from East Carroll Parish line to US 80 and south of US 80. Also, all lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;

xiii. Pointe Coupee: All of the parish except that portion bounded on the north by LA Hwy. 1, from

Innis to the junction of LA Hwy 417, on the west by LA Hwy. 417 southward toward McCrea, on the south by LA Hwy. 417 from McCrea to its junction with Delhi Lane, then by Delhi Lane to LA Hwy. 418, then LA Hwy. 418 northward to LA Hwy. 1 at Innis. EXCEPTION: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries.

xiv. Rapides: All of the parish except that portion of lands that lies north of the Red River and south of US 71 from its juncture with the Red River northward to the Grant Parish line. Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest season dates;

xv. Richland: That portion south of US 80 and east of LA 17;

xvi. St. Landry: That portion bounded on the west by the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and on the east by the Atchafalaya River. EXCEPTION: the Indian Bayou Area, see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Indian Bayou Area dates;

xvii. Upper St. Martin: All within the Atchafalaya Basin. EXCEPTIONS: Sherburne WMA and Indian Bayou Area, see WMA Turkey Hunting Schedule for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne WMA boundaries and see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Indian Bayou dates;

xviii. Tensas: That portion west of US 65 from the Concordia Parish line to its juncture with LA 128, north of LA 128 to St. Joseph; west and north of LA 605, 604 and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry. Also all lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;

2. Area B - March 25 - April ~~17~~ 16

a. All of the following parishes are open:

i. Bienville;

ii. Bossier;

iii. Caddo;

iv. Claiborne (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

v. DeSoto;

vi. Jackson;

vii. Lincoln;

viii. Red River;

ix. Union;

x. Webster (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

b. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Ascension: All east of the Mississippi River;

ii. East Carroll: East of US 65 from Arkansas state line to Madison Parish line;

iii. Iberville: All east of the Mississippi River;

iv. Ouachita: East of LA 143 from Union Parish line to US 80 in West Monroe, north of US 80 to LA 139, west of LA 139 to the Morehouse Parish line;

v. Morehouse: West of US 165 from the Arkansas line to Bonita, north and west of LA 140 to junction of LA 830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), west of LA 830-4 to US 165, north of US 165 to LA 139, west of LA 139 to Ouachita Parish line;

3. Area C - March 25 - April ~~3~~ 2

a. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Catahoula: That portion lying south of Deer Creek to Boeuf River, east of Boeuf and Ouachita Rivers to LA 8 at Harrisonburg, west and north of LA 8 to LA 15, west of LA 15 to Deer Creek;

ii. Concordia: North and east of Sugar Mill Chute (Concordia Parish) from the state line westward to Red River, east of Red River northward to Cocodrie Bayou, east of Cocodrie Bayou northward to US 84, south of US 84 eastward to LA 15 (Ferriday), east of LA 15 northward to US 65 (Clayton), east of US 65 northward to Tensas Parish line;

iii. Franklin: That portion lying west of LA 17, from Richland Parish line to LA 577 at Crowville, north of LA 577 to LA 15 at Baskin, east of LA 15 to Big Creek, and

south and east of Big Creek to Richland Parish line. Also, that portion east of Turkey Creek Lake, Turkey Creek and Boeuf River, north of Deer Creek, west of LA 15 and south of LA 562;

iv. Richland: West of LA 17 from Franklin Parish line to Ringle Road, south of Ringle Road to Ferguson Road, south of Ferguson Road to Little Road, south of Little Road to Big Creek, east of Big Creek to Franklin Parish line;

v. Tensas: East and south of US 65 from Concordia Parish line to LA 128, south of LA 128 to St. Joseph, east and south of LA 605, 604 and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2264 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270 (December 2001), LR 28:2376 (November 2002), LR 29:2513 (November 2003), LR 30:2875 (December 2004), LR 31: .

§117. ~~2005~~ 2006 Wildlife Management Area Turkey - Hunting Regulations

A. General

1. The following rules and regulations concerning management, protection and harvest of wildlife have been officially approved and adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in accordance with the authority provided in

Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, Section 109 of Title 56. Failure to comply with these regulations will subject the individual to citation and/or expulsion from the management area.

2. Only those Wildlife Management Areas listed are open to turkey hunting.

3. ATVs, ATCs and motorcycles cannot be left overnight on WMAs EXCEPT in designated camping areas. ATVs are prohibited from two hours after sunset to 3:00 AM. All roads including trails and roads designated as ATV only trails shall be closed to ATVs from March 1 through August 31 unless otherwise specified. ATV off-road or off-trail travel is prohibited. Certain trails may be open during this time period to provide access for fishing or other purposes. These trails will be marked by signs at the entrance of the trail. Otherwise, only walk-in hunting is permitted (bicycles permitted).

4. Bag limits on WMAs are part of the season bag limit. Only one turkey is allowed to be taken during special lottery hunts.

5. WMAs with youth turkey hunts are closed to all activities except turkey hunting by authorized youth hunt participants and fishing on the day(s) of the youth hunt.

B. Permits

1. Self-Clearing Permits: All turkey hunts, including lottery hunts, are self-clearing. Hunters must check in daily by obtaining a permit from a self-clearing station prior to hunting. The self-clearing permit must be in the hunter's possession while hunting. Upon completion of each days hunt, the hunter must check out by completing and depositing the hunter report portion of the permit in the check-out box at a self-clearing station before exiting the WMA.

2. Lottery Hunts: Bayou Macon, Boise-Vernon, Loggy Bayou, Sabine, Sherburne, Sicily Island, Tunica Hills, Union and West Bay WMAs are restricted to those persons selected as a result of the pre-application lottery. Special youth only lottery hunts will be held on Big Lake, Bens Creek, Fort Polk/Peason Ridge, Jackson-Bienville, Loggy Bayou, Sherburne, Spring Bayou, Thistlewaite, Union and West Bay WMAs. Deadline for receiving complete applications in the Baton Rouge office for all lottery hunts is 4:30 p.m. February 15, 2005 2006. An application fee of \$5 must be sent with each application. Applicants for WMA youth hunts must be at least 8 years old on the day of the hunt. Applicants may submit only one application and will be selected for one WMA Turkey Lottery Hunt annually. Submitting more than one application will result in disqualification. Contact any district office for applications. Hunters must abide by self-clearing permit requirements. Youths

chosen for special youth only hunts will be guided by members of the Louisiana Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. One family member may accompany the youth and guide, but may not hunt.

C. Wildlife Management Area Turkey Hunting Schedule*

WMA	Season Dates	Permit Requirements	Lottery Dates**
Bayou Macon	April 9-10 <u>8-9</u>	Self-Clearing	April 9-10 <u>8-9</u>
Bens Creek ¹	March 25-April 17 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Big Lake	March 25-April 3 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Bodcau	March 25-April 10 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Boeuf	March 25-April 3 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Clear Creek (formerly Boise Vernon)	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-24 <u>1-23</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u>
Camp Beauregard	March 25-April 10 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Fort Polk	March 25-April 24 <u>23</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Grassy Lake	March 25-April 10 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Hutchinson Creek	March 25-April 24 <u>23</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Jackson- Bienville	March 25-April 10 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Lake Ramsey	March 25-April 10 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Little River	March 25-April 10 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Loggy Bayou	April 16-17 <u>15-16</u>	Self-Clearing	April 16-17 <u>15-16</u>
Pearl River	March 25-April 17 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Peason Ridge	March 25-April 24 <u>23</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Pomme de Terre	March 25-April 10	Self-Clearing	None
Red River	March 25-April 3 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	None

Sabine	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u>
Sandy Hollow ¹	March 25-April 17 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Sherburne ²	March 25-April 3 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> March 28-30 <u>27-29</u>
Sicily Island	March 25-April 3 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 28 <u>27</u> March 29-31 <u>28-30</u> March 31 -April 1 - <u>3-2</u>
Three Rivers	March 25-April 3 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Tunica Hills South Tract	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u> April 9-10 <u>8-9</u> April 11-17 <u>10-16</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u> April 9-10 <u>8-9</u>
Tunica Hills Angola Tract ³	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u> April 9-10 <u>8-9</u> April 11-17 <u>10-16</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u> April 9-10 <u>8-9</u>
Union	April 9-10 <u>8-9</u>	Self-Clearing	April 9-10 <u>8-9</u>
Walnut Hills	March 25-April 24 <u>23</u>	Self-Clearing	None
West Bay	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u>

*Only those Wildlife Management Areas listed have a turkey hunting season. All other areas are closed.

**The deadline for receiving applications for all turkey Lottery Hunts on WMAs is February 15, ~~2005~~ 2006.

¹No turkey hunting within 100 yards of food plots identified by two yellow paint rings around the nearest tree.

²All turkeys harvested on Sherburne WMA must be weighed and checked at WMA headquarters.

³~~Scouting access limited. Contact Region 7 office for details (225) 765-2360. Area closed to all users April 17 - August 31.~~

D. Wildlife Management Area Youth Hunts

WMA	Lottery Hunt Date	Youth
Bens Creek	March 19 <u>18</u>	
Big Lake	March 19 <u>18</u>	
Fort Polk/Peason Ridge	March 19 <u>18</u>	
Jackson-Bienville	March 19 <u>18</u>	
Loggy Bayou	April 9 <u>8</u>	
Sherburne	March 19 <u>18 & 19</u>	
<u>Spring Bayou</u>	March <u>18</u>	
<u>Thistlewaite</u>	April <u>8</u>	
Union	April 2 <u>1</u>	
West Bay	March 19 <u>18</u>	

E. Federal Lands Turkey Hunting Schedule

1. Kisatchie National Forest (KNF) turkey hunting schedule: Caney Ranger District, March 25-April ~~10~~ 9; all remaining KNF lands, March 25-April ~~17~~ 16 (including Catahoula and Red Dirt National Wildlife Management Preserves).

2. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers turkey hunting schedule: Indian Bayou Area, March ~~19~~ 18 handicap only hunt, March 25 - April ~~3~~ 2, lottery hunt only on March 25 - ~~27~~ 26 and March ~~28~~ - ~~30~~ 27 - 29. Contact USCOE at 337-585-0853 for further information. Old River Control and Lock Areas, March 25-April 2. Contact U.S.C.O.E.(225)492-2690 for further information.

3. National Wildlife Refuges: Bogue Chitto NWR, March 25 - April ~~24~~ 23; Lake Ophelia NWR, March 25 - ~~April 1~~ 31, April ~~9~~ - ~~24~~ 8 - 23; Tensas NWR, March ~~19~~ - ~~20~~ 18 - 19 (youth lottery only), March 25 - April ~~10~~ 9. Contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for information regarding NWR hunts.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR 25:2265 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2636 (November 2000), LR 27:2272 (December 2001), LR 28:2377 (November 2002), LR 29:2514 (November 2003), LR 30:2876 (December 2004), LR 31: .

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Notice of Intent and the final Rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the Fiscal and Economic Impact Statements, the filing of the Notice of Intent and final Rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed Rule to David Moreland, Administrator, Wildlife Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000 no later than October 6, 2005.

In accordance with Act #1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Terry D. Denmon

Vice-Chairman

RULE

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

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Title 76

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iv. Caldwell: West of Ouachita River southward to Catahoula Parish line;

v. Catahoula: West of Ouachita River southward to LA 559 at Duty Ferry, north of LA 559 to LA 124, south and west of LA 124 from Duty Ferry to LA 8 at Harrisonburg and north and west of LA 8 to LaSalle Parish line. ALSO that portion lying east of LA 15;

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xiii. Pointe Coupee: All of the parish except that portion bounded on the north by LA Hwy. 1, from

Innis to the junction of LA Hwy 417, on the west by LA Hwy. 417 southward toward McCrea, on the south by LA Hwy. 417 from McCrea to its junction with Delhi Lane, then by Delhi Lane to LA Hwy. 418, then LA Hwy. 418 northward to LA Hwy. 1 at Innis. EXCEPTION: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries.

xiv. Rapides: All of the parish except that portion of lands that lies north of the Red River and south of US 71 from its juncture with the Red River northward to the Grant Parish line. Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest season dates;

xv. Richland: That portion south of US 80 and east of LA 17;

xvi. St. Landry: That portion bounded on the west by the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and on the east by the Atchafalaya River. EXCEPTION: the Indian Bayou Area, see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Indian Bayou Area dates;

xvii. Upper St. Martin: All within the Atchafalaya Basin. EXCEPTIONS: Sherburne WMA and Indian Bayou Area, see WMA Turkey Hunting Schedule for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne WMA boundaries and see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Indian Bayou dates;

xviii. Tensas: That portion west of US 65 from the Concordia Parish line to its juncture with LA 128, north of LA 128 to St. Joseph; west and north of LA 605, 604 and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry. Also all lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;

2. Area B - March 25 - April ~~17~~ 16

a. All of the following parishes are open:

i. Bienville;

ii. Bossier;

iii. Caddo;

iv. Claiborne (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

v. DeSoto;

vi. Jackson;

vii. Lincoln;

viii. Red River;

ix. Union;

x. Webster (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

b. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Ascension: All east of the Mississippi River;

ii. East Carroll: East of US 65 from Arkansas state line to Madison Parish line;

iii. Iberville: All east of the Mississippi River;

iv. Ouachita: East of LA 143 from Union Parish line to US 80 in West Monroe, north of US 80 to LA 139, west of LA 139 to the Morehouse Parish line;

v. Morehouse: West of US 165 from the Arkansas line to Bonita, north and west of LA 140 to junction of LA 830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), west of LA 830-4 to US 165, north of US 165 to LA 139, west of LA 139 to Ouachita Parish line;

3. Area C - March 25 - April ~~3~~ 2

a. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Catahoula: That portion lying south of Deer Creek to Boeuf River, east of Boeuf and Ouachita Rivers to LA 8 at Harrisonburg, west and north of LA 8 to LA 15, west of LA 15 to Deer Creek;

ii. Concordia: North and east of Sugar Mill Chute (Concordia Parish) from the state line westward to Red River, east of Red River northward to Cocodrie Bayou, east of Cocodrie Bayou northward to US 84, south of US 84 eastward to LA 15 (Ferriday), east of LA 15 northward to US 65 (Clayton), east of US 65 northward to Tensas Parish line;

iii. Franklin: That portion lying west of LA 17, from Richland Parish line to LA 577 at Crowville, north of LA 577 to LA 15 at Baskin, east of LA 15 to Big Creek, and

south and east of Big Creek to Richland Parish line. Also, that portion east of Turkey Creek Lake, Turkey Creek and Boeuf River, north of Deer Creek, west of LA 15 and south of LA 562;

iv. Richland: West of LA 17 from Franklin Parish line to Ringle Road, south of Ringle Road to Ferguson Road, south of Ferguson Road to Little Road, south of Little Road to Big Creek, east of Big Creek to Franklin Parish line;

v. Tensas: East and south of US 65 from Concordia Parish line to LA 128, south of LA 128 to St. Joseph, east and south of LA 605, 604 and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2264 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270 (December 2001), LR 28:2376 (November 2002), LR 29:2513 (November 2003), LR 30:2875 (December 2004), LR 31: .

§117. ~~2005~~ 2006 Wildlife Management Area Turkey - Hunting Regulations

A. General

1. The following rules and regulations concerning management, protection and harvest of wildlife have been officially approved and adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in accordance with the authority provided in

Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, Section 109 of Title 56. Failure to comply with these regulations will subject the individual to citation and/or expulsion from the management area.

2. Only those Wildlife Management Areas listed are open to turkey hunting.

3. ATVs, ATCs and motorcycles cannot be left overnight on WMAs EXCEPT in designated camping areas. ATVs are prohibited from two hours after sunset to 3:00 AM. All roads including trails and roads designated as ATV only trails shall be closed to ATVs from March 1 through August 31 unless otherwise specified. ATV off-road or off-trail travel is prohibited. Certain trails may be open during this time period to provide access for fishing or other purposes. These trails will be marked by signs at the entrance of the trail. Otherwise, only walk-in hunting is permitted (bicycles permitted).

4. Bag limits on WMAs are part of the season bag limit. Only one turkey is allowed to be taken during special lottery hunts.

5. WMAs with youth turkey hunts are closed to all activities except turkey hunting by authorized youth hunt participants and fishing on the day(s) of the youth hunt.

B. Permits

1. Self-Clearing Permits: All turkey hunts, including lottery hunts, are self-clearing. Hunters must check in daily by obtaining a permit from a self-clearing station prior to hunting. The self-clearing permit must be in the hunter's possession while hunting. Upon completion of each days hunt, the hunter must check out by completing and depositing the hunter report portion of the permit in the check-out box at a self-clearing station before exiting the WMA.

2. Lottery Hunts: Bayou Macon, Boise-Vernon, Loggy Bayou, Sabine, Sherburne, Sicily Island, Tunica Hills, Union and West Bay WMAs are restricted to those persons selected as a result of the pre-application lottery. Special youth only lottery hunts will be held on Big Lake, Bens Creek, Fort Polk/Peason Ridge, Jackson-Bienville, Loggy Bayou, Sherburne, Spring Bayou, Thistlewaite, Union and West Bay WMAs. Deadline for receiving complete applications in the Baton Rouge office for all lottery hunts is 4:30 p.m. February 15, 2005 2006. An application fee of \$5 must be sent with each application. Applicants for WMA youth hunts must be at least 8 years old on the day of the hunt. Applicants may submit only one application and will be selected for one WMA Turkey Lottery Hunt annually. Submitting more than one application will result in disqualification. Contact any district office for applications. Hunters must abide by self-clearing permit requirements. Youths

chosen for special youth only hunts will be guided by members of the Louisiana Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. One family member may accompany the youth and guide, but may not hunt.

C. Wildlife Management Area Turkey Hunting Schedule*

WMA	Season Dates	Permit Requirements	Lottery Dates**
Bayou Macon	April 9-10 <u>8-9</u>	Self-Clearing	April 9-10 <u>8-9</u>
Bens Creek ¹	March 25-April 17 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Big Lake	March 25-April 3 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Bodcau	March 25-April 10 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Boeuf	March 25-April 3 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Clear Creek (formerly Boise Vernon)	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-24 <u>1-23</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u>
Camp Beauregard	March 25-April 10 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Fort Polk	March 25-April 24 <u>23</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Grassy Lake	March 25-April 10 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Hutchinson Creek	March 25-April 24 <u>23</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Jackson- Bienville	March 25-April 10 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Lake Ramsey	March 25-April 10 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Little River	March 25-April 10 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Loggy Bayou	April 16-17 <u>15-16</u>	Self-Clearing	April 16-17 <u>15-16</u>
Pearl River	March 25-April 17 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Peason Ridge	March 25-April 24 <u>23</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Pomme de Terre	March 25-April 10	Self-Clearing	None
Red River	March 25-April 3 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	None

Sabine	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u>
Sandy Hollow ¹	March 25-April 17 <u>9</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Sherburne ²	March 25-April 3 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> March 28-30 <u>27-29</u>
Sicily Island	March 25-April 3 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 28 <u>27</u> March 29-31 <u>28-30</u> March 31 -April 1 - <u>3-2</u>
Three Rivers	March 25-April 3 <u>2</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Tunica Hills South Tract	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u> April 9-10 <u>8-9</u> April 11-17 <u>10-16</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u> April 9-10 <u>8-9</u>
Tunica Hills Angola Tract ³	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u> April 9-10 <u>8-9</u> April 11-17 <u>10-16</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u> April 9-10 <u>8-9</u>
Union	April 9-10 <u>8-9</u>	Self-Clearing	April 9-10 <u>8-9</u>
Walnut Hills	March 25-April 24 <u>23</u>	Self-Clearing	None
West Bay	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u>	Self-Clearing	March 25- 27 <u>26</u> April 2-3 <u>1-2</u>

*Only those Wildlife Management Areas listed have a turkey hunting season. All other areas are closed.

**The deadline for receiving applications for all turkey Lottery Hunts on WMAs is February 15, ~~2005~~ 2006.

¹No turkey hunting within 100 yards of food plots identified by two yellow paint rings around the nearest tree.

²All turkeys harvested on Sherburne WMA must be weighed and checked at WMA headquarters.

³~~Scouting access limited. Contact Region 7 office for details (225) 765-2360. Area closed to all users April 17 - August 31.~~

D. Wildlife Management Area Youth Hunts

WMA	Lottery Hunt Date	Youth
Bens Creek	March 19 18	
Big Lake	March 19 18	
Fort Polk/Peason Ridge	March 19 18	
Jackson-Bienville	March 19 18	
Loggy Bayou	April 9 8	
Sherburne	March 19 18 & 19	
Spring Bayou	March 18	
Thistlewaite	April 8	
Union	April 2 1	
West Bay	March 19 18	

E. Federal Lands Turkey Hunting Schedule

1. Kisatchie National Forest (KNF) turkey hunting schedule: Caney Ranger District, March 25-April ~~10~~ 9; all remaining KNF lands, March 25-April ~~17~~ 16 (including Catahoula and Red Dirt National Wildlife Management Preserves).

2. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers turkey hunting schedule: Indian Bayou Area, March ~~19~~ 18 handicap only hunt, March 25 - April 3 2, lottery hunt only on March 25 - ~~27~~ 26 and March ~~28~~ 30 27 - 29. Contact USCOE at 337-585-0853 for further information. Old River Control and Lock Areas, March 25-April 2. Contact U.S.C.O.E.(225)492-2690 for further information.

3. National Wildlife Refuges: Bogue Chitto NWR, March 25 - April ~~24~~ 23; Lake Ophelia NWR, March 25 - ~~April 1~~ 31, April ~~9 - 24~~ 8 - 23; Tensas NWR, March ~~19 - 20~~ 18 - 19 (youth lottery only), March 25 - April ~~10~~ 9. Contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for information regarding NWR hunts.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR 25:2265 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2636 (November 2000), LR 27:2272 (December 2001), LR 28:2377 (November 2002), LR 29:2514 (November 2003), LR 30:2876 (December 2004), LR 31: .

Terry D. Denmon

Vice-Chairman